facilities in any hospital is a continuous on-going process, at present, no proposal is under consideration for expansion of Safdarjung Hospital.

Malnutrition and maternal mortality in India

1906. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the WHO has expressed its dissatisfaction over the condition of health services in India; and

(b) if so, whether the problems regarding maternal mortality and malnutrition among the children are very critical in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No Sir, the World Health Report 2005 released by the WHO ranks India amongst the 51 countries which have shown a slow decline in reducing infant mortality rate and maternal mortality ratio.

The National Population Policy-2000 and the National Health Policy-2002 have laid down goals for bringing down the infant mortality rate to less that 30 per 1,000 live births and maternal mortality ratio to less than 100 per 100,000 live births by the year 2010. Malnutrition is also a challenge occurring due to the factors like poverty, lack of nutritional awareness, unsafe drinking water, sanitation etc. The Government. has recently launched the National Rural Health Mission to tackle health problems in a holistic manner, while the Mission is applicable to the entire country, it has its spl. Focus on 18 States, which have poor health and demographic indicators.

Lack of equipment in hospital in Delhi

1907. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many of hospitals are having acute shortage of latest equipment in Delhi/New Delhi due to which several people have lost their lives;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of such cases in Safdarjung and